

REMARKS

The response contained herein does not introduce new matter into the present application for invention. Therefore, the Applicant, respectfully, requests that the above amendment be entered in and that the claims to the present application, kindly, be reconsidered.

The Office Action dated November 9, 2004 has been received and considered by the Applicants. Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application for invention. Claims 1-20 are rejected by the November 9, 2004 Office Action.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 3, 5-6, 12, 14 and 16-17 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable U.S. Patent No. 6,448,987 issued to Easty et al. (hereinafter referred to as Easty et al.), taken with U.S. Patent No. 5,940,076 issued to Sommers et al. (hereinafter referred to as Sommers et al.), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,986,638 issued to Cheng (hereinafter referred to as Cheng).

The Examiner, in making the rejection regarding Claims 1 and 12, states that Easty et al. teach a graphic user interface for a digital content delivery system using circular menus. The Examiner further states that Easty et al. teach an image control system for controlling a menu on a display comprising the elements defined by rejected Claims 1 and 12 including "wherein movement around the loop configuration of the control device causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu." The Applicant, respectfully points out that there is no movement around the loop configuration of the control device that causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu that is disclosed, or suggested by Easty et al. Easty et al. simply provide an out ring an inner ring and teach to select one of the elements within the outer ring. The outer ring is then rotated so that the selected element is displayed at the top position (see col. 5, lines 45-47). The subcategories are then displayed in the inner ring responsive to the selected elements within the outer ring. There is no movement around the loop configuration of the control device that causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu that is disclosed, or suggested by Easty et al. The is only a simple selection made by the control device without any teaching or suggestion for

movement of the control device in a loop configuration disclosed, or suggested by Easty et al.

The Examiner admits that Easty et al. do not teach a user input device, having a loop configuration to generate a control signal to move the menu selection means around the display loop. The Examiner states that Sommers et al. teach a graphical user interface for an electronic device and method therefore Sommers et al. teach the loop being moveable and a user input device comprising a control device to generate a control signal to move the loop and the selector relative to each other. The Applicant, respectfully, points out that rejected Claims 1 and 12 define subject matter for movement around the loop configuration of the control device that causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu. The Office Action does not address this recitation for a relative angular movement between the selector and the loop of the menu. The Office Action simply states that Sommers et al. teach the loop and the selector moving relative to each other. There is no assertion within the Office Action that Sommers et al. teach that the movement around the loop configuration of the control device causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu. Accordingly, all of the elements defined by rejected Claims 1 and 12 are not found in the combination of Easty et al. with Sommers et al., either alone or in combination. Therefore, this rejection is traversed.

The Examiner in making the rejection regarding Claims 5 and 16 states that Sommers et al. teach an image control system wherein the menu is arranged in a substantially circular form and wherein change in the control signal causes rotation of the circle with respect to a predetermined point of rotation. Claims 5 and 16 depend from Claims 1 and 12 and are believed to be allowable for the reasons previously stated for Claims 5 and 16.

The Examiner making the rejection with regard to Claims 6 and 17 states that Cheng teaches the menu arranged in a carousel arrangement and Sommers et al. teach the menu arranged in a carousel arrangement and displayed in three dimensions on the display. Claims 6 and 17 depend from Claims 1 and 12 and are believed to be allowable for the reasons previously stated for Claims 5 and 16.

The Office Action rejects Claims 2, 7-8, 13 and 18 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng and

further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,667,319 issued in the name of Satloff (hereinafter referred to as Satloff).

The Examiner making the rejection regarding Claims 2, 7-8, 13, and 18 states that Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng does not teach said image control system wherein the user input devices comprises at least one force-sensing resistor to receive a force from a user and generate the control signal in dependence on this; or wherein the user input device is a joystick. The Examiner further states that Easty taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng teaches a loop of menu images displayed for selection wherein the menu loop can be rotated via a rotatable input device and wherein the image selector can also be rotated around the image loop to designate the menu to be selected.

The Examiner states that Satloff teaches an image control system wherein the input device comprises at least one force sensing resistor or a joystick at col. 7, lines 29-36. The Applicants, respectfully, submit that Claims 2 and 13 must be viewed in conjunction with the claims from which they depend, wherein the movement around the loop configuration of the control device causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu. Satloff relates to keyboards, and the paragraph cited by the Examiner on col. 7, lines 29-36, does not disclose, or suggest, movement around the loop configuration of the control device that causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu. Moreover, there is no motivation provided by any of Easty et al., Cheng, Sommers et al. or Satloff to modify the teachings contained therein to create a movement around a loop configuration of the control device that causes a corresponding relative movement between a selector and a loop of a menu. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects Claims 4, 15, and 20 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Chang as applied to Claims 1 and 12 respectively in item 3 hereinabove, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,736,191 issued to Matzke et al. (hereinafter referred to as Matzke et al.).

Regarding Claim 4, the Applicant would like to, respectfully, point out that Matzke et al. do not disclose, or suggest, an annular pressure pad to receive pressure from a user and generate the control signal corresponding to the angular position on the pressure pad at which pressure is applied wherein the loop and the selector being moveable with respect to each other. Moreover,

Matzke et al. do not disclose, or suggest, wherein the movement around the loop configuration of the control device causes a corresponding relative angular movement that is substantially equal between the selector and the loop of the menu.

Regarding Claim 15, there is no suggestion within the cited reference Matzke et al., to control the loop display position by applying pressure on the pressure pad to create a corresponding movement in the loop and the selector relative to each other as recited by rejected Claim 15.

Regarding Claim 20, there is no suggestion within the cited reference Matzke et al., for a continuous circular movement upon an annular control device causing a corresponding relative movement between the selector and the loop of the menu in a series of discrete steps. The Applicant respectfully submits that the loop and selector moving in discrete steps is different than a continuous movement of the loop and the selector. In a digital world, everything is computed in discrete steps. However, the display can take the form wherein the movement of the loop and the selector appears continuous to the user or the display can take form wherein the movement of the loop and the selector appears to occur in discrete steps. The Applicant asserts that neither the display, wherein the movement of the loop and the selector appears continuous to the user of the display, and the movement of the loop and the selector appears to occur in discrete steps is disclosed, or suggested, by the combination made by the Office Action. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects Claim 9 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easy taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng as applied to Claim 1 in item 3 hereinabove, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,501,516 issued to Clapper (hereinafter referred to as Clapper). Cheng relates to an on screen display (OSD) for computer monitors. Sommers et al. relates to Graphical User Interfaces. The Applicant, respectfully, submits that the Office Action has not provided any motivation for employing the teachings of these several references to televisions and remote controls for televisions. The Applicant, respectfully, asserts that the Examiner is using the elements to the rejected claims of the present invention as a template to pick and choose the recited elements of the rejected claims from among various prior art references. There is no suggestion or motivation within the cited reference to combine the set of references combined by this rejection. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action rejects Claim 10 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easty with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng as applied to Claim 1 in item 3 hereinabove, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,736,703 (hereinafter referred to as Kim).

The Examiner in making the rejection regarding Claim 10 states that Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng does not teach a mobile telephone handset having a control system in which the display is the mobile telephone handset display screen and the input device is a rotary control positioned on the front face of the mobile telephone handset.. The Examiner further states that Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng teaches a loop of menu images displayed for selection wherein the menu loop can be rotated via a rotatable input device and wherein the image selector can also be rotated around the image loop to designate the menu to be selected. The Examiner further states that Kim teaches a variable speed select key for a mobile communication device enabling step or speed scrolling of device functions to facilitate function selection and further teaches a mobile telephone handset having a control system in which the display is the mobile telephone handset display screen and the input device is a rotary control positioned on the front face of the mobile telephone handset. The Applicant would like to, respectfully, point out that Kim employs a rotary device to scroll through a function list. There is no disclosure, or suggestion, within Kim for using the rotary device for controlling the simultaneous movement of both a loop and a selector wherein movement around the rotary device causes a corresponding relative movement between the selector and the loop of the menu. The Applicants, respectfully assert that the Examiner is picking and choosing among prior art references using the elements to the rejected claims of the present invention as a blueprint. There is no suggestion to combine the set of references combined by this rejection. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

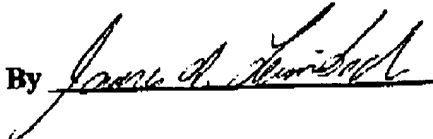
The Office Action rejects Claims 11 and 19 under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easty et al. taken with Sommers et al. in view of Cheng as applied to Claims 1 and 12 respectively in item 3 hereinabove, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,405,061 issued to Bae (hereinafter referred to as Bae). The Applicant would like to respectfully point out that Bae discloses a touch pad but there is no disclosure of an annular pressure pad to receive pressure from a user and generate the control signal corresponding to the angular position on the pressure pad at which pressure is applied. Accordingly, the recited elements of Claim 11 and 19 are completely omitted in this rejection. There is no suggestion to

combine the set of references combined by this rejection. Accordingly, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant is not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. 1.99.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance, with such allowance being, respectfully, requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

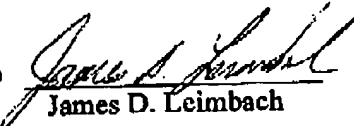
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